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SOURCE Obrana Lidu, No 57, 1949.NEW CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY INSIGNIA

In the near future, noncommissioned officers and privates first class will be provided with new insignia of rank. The distinctive buttons will be replaced by cloth stripes on shoulder straps. The regulations for these new insignia have been published in the Vecni Vestnik (Official Bulletin) of the Ministry of National Defense.

Henceforth, the shoulder straps will bear only the insignia of rank, while insignia of membership in military technical schools and military training centers will be worn only on the left sleeve. The rank insignia for noncommissioned officers on active service or in the reserve are as follows: private first class, one scarlet stripe one centimeter wide; corporal, two stripes; sergeant, three stripes; staff sergeant, one scarlet stripe two centimeters wide; and starsina, one stripe two centimeters wide and one stripe one centimeter wide. Drafted noncommissioned officers from the rank of sergeant up will have the same number and size of gold stripes. An additional sign of a drafted noncommissioned officer is a 17-millimeter-wide scarlet cloth stripe sewn along the center of the shoulder strap. Members and graduates of schools for reserve officers will have one-centimeter-wide silver stripes sewn on the shoulder straps, as in the case of privates first class and noncommissioned officers.

Members of the military academy and technicians of the military engineering academy will wear gold centimeter-wide stripes on their shoulder straps, sewn onto a 4.5-centimeter-wide scarlet cloth backing. Only members of military academies have this backing under their insignia of rank.

Membership in military technical schools and military training centers is designated by scarlet stripes; in the case of members of schools for reserve officers, by silver stripes. These stripes, which are 7 centimeters long, are worn parallel to the cuff of the sleeve. The number of stripes is determined by the number of years in the case of junior cadets (one in the first year, two in the second, etc.); senior cadets in the first year wear one two-centimeter-wide stripe, and for each additional year, a one-centimeter-wide stripe, with intervals of one centimeter between stripes. Members of young

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officers' schools will wear one stripe two centimeters wide in the form of an inverted letter "Y," and members of schools for reserve officers will wear one silver stripe one centimeter wide; graduates, however, will not wear it.

Drafted noncommissioned officers and members and graduates of reserve officers' schools will wear gilded buttons on their dress uniform (as do officers). The wearing of silver buttons will be completely discontinued; the previous stained buttons will henceforth be worn by enlisted men and noncommissioned officers in active service and in the reserve.

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